

British Packet

AND

ARGENTINE NEWS.

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BUENOS AYRES, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20, 1838.

[Vol. XIII.]

BUENOS AYRES.

The capture of the island of Martin Garcia, by the French, in conjunction with a body of the partisans of Don Francisco Rivera in arms against the legal government of the Oriental State, has caused a sensation so great amongst all classes in Buenos Ayres, that we have taken some pains to inform ourselves of the facts of the case, from individuals who were on the spot at the time of the capture.

On the morning of the 8th inst., the French vessels of war Expeditivo, Bordaissé and Ann, being at their usual anchorage off the island, there came in sight from Colonia and anchored gun shot and a half from the battery, the following vessels acting for Rivera—schooners Lobos, Eufracia, Star of the South and Despacho. They remained until the arrival at 4 P. M. of the black felucca boat, which has so often visited the blockaders off Buenos Ayres, and then got under weigh and cast anchor between the Expeditivo and Bordaissé, musquet shot from the island.

The subjoined note was sent on shore this day.

October 8th, 1838.

To the Commander of Martin Garcia.

Sir,
Commissioned to blockade the island of Martin Garcia, it is my duty to intercept all communication between it and the main land, it is therefore with regret that I find myself under the necessity of returning to you the passengers of the balandra, detained last night by my boats.

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my high consideration.

The Captain of the brig Bordaissé.

H. DE LASLANDE DE CALAN.

On the 9th, the Commandant of the island, Lieut. Col. Gerónimo Costa, sent Major John B. Thorne to the beach with a flag of truce. This brought a French boat with the Captain of the Expeditivo. Major Thorne asked him if the Anarchists then to view were under French protection, the reply was in the affirmative. Colonel Costa immediately addressed a note to the Chief of the blockading force off Martin Garcia, in token that the Argentine Republic being at peace with France, and the presumed object of the French vessels off the island being merely to blockade it, he wished to be informed if the vessels of the Anarchists of the Oriental State, were under the protection of the French flag, as the French officer had verbally declared to Major Thorne. He had no other object in thus addressing him, than to avoid the least motive which might tend to interrupt the good understanding it was wished to maintain between the French and Argentine nations.

This produced the following reply.

October 9th, 1838.

To the Commander of Martin Garcia.

Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 9th inst., and to inform you that my orders are to defend by every means in my power the vessels of the Banda Oriental, which are at this moment at anchor near us, should they be attacked.

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my sincere consideration.

The Captain of the brig Bordaissé.

H. DE LASLANDE DE CALAN.

At sun set on the 9th, the French brigantine of war Vigilante, arrived in company with several French armed boats from Colonia. On the 10th, at 4 P. M., the Expeditivo, Rivera's sloop and the French boats, got under weigh, and anchored pistol shot from the shore, in fact, so near, that the Expeditivo struck the ground

and was obliged to haul off. The Bordaissé joined at 9 P. M. They had made every preparation to land that night, but were prevented by a strong S. W. wind.—On the 11th, at 5 A. M., a boat came from the Expeditivo, with a French flag aft, and a white flag at the bow.—It brought a note which was received by Major Thorne, who conveyed it to the Commander: the contents was as follows.

Vigilante, at anchor off Martin Garcia, October 10th, 1838.

To the Commander of Martin Garcia.

Sir,

I have the honor to inform you, that the French Admiral Leblanc, Commander in Chief on the Brazil and South Sea stations; has ordered me to take possession of the island of Martin Garcia. The forces at my disposal for this purpose, are so superior to those under your orders, that there cannot be a doubt of the issue being favourable, I conceive it therefore my duty, to state that I shall not have recourse to arms, unless you prefer to surrender to me the island, which positive orders oblige me to occupy.

I allow you one hour to send me your answer, and should it not be conformable with the intentions I have just expressed, I shall consider it as a signal of hostilities, which shall immediately commence between us.

I entreat you to accept the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

The Captain of Corvette, commanding the expedition.

HYPOLITE DAUGESNET.

The reply to the above was as follows.

Martin Garcia, October 11th, 1838.

To the Commander of the forces blockading this island.

I have now before me the communication of the Commander of the French naval forces off this island, requiring me to surrender the post which I have the honor to command. In answer to which I have only to say, that in conformity to my duty, I am disposed to sustain the honor of the nation to which I belong.

God preserve you many years.

GERÓNIMO COSTA.

Immediately after the receipt of the above on board the Expeditivo, the French boats and those of Rivera's squadron, all full of men, pulled towards the old mole, where they disembarked about half past 10 A. M. without opposition, in number 542 men, viz.—360 French seamen, armed with musquets, (bayonets fixed), pistols and cutlasses. Each carrying a hammock and a bed. Of Rivera's people there were 182. They divided themselves into three columns and a reserve, both parties, French and Riverista's mingled together. Rivera's skirmishers were sent forward, commanded by Santiago Soriano (an Italian), and Pepe Susubia (a South American). Almost simultaneous with the landing, a musquet was fired, upon which the battery opened fire, (the first gun being fired by Major John B. Thorne) which was promptly answered from the allied squadrons.—At the third discharge, the battery guns were instantly reloaded. After firing for one hour and five minutes, it was seen that longer resistance was useless. A white flag was displayed from the fort, which was not acknowledged or noticed, and the allies entered and took possession. The loss in the battery was 14 killed and 20 wounded. That of the French and Riverista's cannot be ascertained, but it has been rated at 25 killed and wounded on the part of the French, and 23 on that of the Riverista's. The French made short work in burying the

dead. In a few minutes they dug a trench in which the bodies were deposited. Six French surgeons were in attendance, and paid the greatest attention to the wounded. A 24 pound shot from the first gun fired from the battery struck the Expeditivo. The chief loss in the battery was occasioned by the musquetry, when the foe was close upon it. The Sergeant of Artillery Saucó, when in the act of spiking a gun, was bayonneted by the French.

As might be expected, various anecdotes are in circulation of occurrences in this affair.—One of them is that a Frenchman whilst endeavouring during the assault to haul down the Argentine flag, was shot by a soldier of the Restauradores, but he immediately received his death by a number of bayonet wounds. The French force made a good appearance. Their allies were in a ragged condition, and are said to consist of men of all countries, including many Italians. Nothing could exceed the kindness of the French on taking possession of Martin Garcia, they returned to the officers their swords, and did every thing in their power to alleviate the misfortunes of the vanquished. On a representation being made, they left a Captain and 20 men on shore, (the rest being embarked), to protect the prisoners from the Riverista's, who were charged with murdering. The wounded were left on the island, with two French surgeons to attend them. The prisoners and the few inhabitants were allowed to go where they pleased. The French flag was flying on the battery from the moment of its capture until sun-set on the 12th inst., with a piquet of 20 men as a guard of honor. At sun-rise on the 13th, the Oriental flag was substituted for the French.

LIEUT. COL. COSTA'S DESPATCH.

Buenos Ayres, October 15th, 1838.

To the Captain of the Fort, Colonel Francisco Crespo.

On the 11th inst., at 8 in the morning, I received the summons which I have the honor to forward to you, with the copy of my answer and other notes which I have annexed. In this state of things, I assembled the officers of the garrison, and informed them that I was disposed as was my duty to sustain at all cost the post I commanded and the honor of the flag. They unanimously replied that they were in the same disposition, and that they would lose the last drop of their blood to protect the Argentine honor and the National cause of Federation. I then called together the force composing the garrison of the island, and prepared for defence, detaching three skirmishing parties of infantry and one of cavalry to reconnoitre, with orders to return the moment the firing commenced, which however the cavalry was not able to effect, being cut off by the enemy.

The French squadron and that of the Anarchists: the first consisting of a corvette, brig, brigantine, and a schooner and 16 launches; and the second of the schooners Lobos, Eufracia, Star of the South and Despacho, and 7 launches, were anchored musquet shot from the island, and from them came 45 boats, large and small, full of men, who disembarked at the old mole. Thence a skirmishing party of theirs fired some shots, which were answered by our skirmishers in observation at that point. This was the signal for all the vessels above mentioned to open fire on the battery, which we answered with the only three pieces we had. With the 24 pounder we fired on the squadron, and with the two twelve pounders at the old mole where there was a skirmishing party of ours, who were treated and fired. The enemy in number about 300 men, formed in three columns of attack and

See last page.

The *Gaceta Mercantil* of 16th inst., contains a communication dated Navarro 20th ult., from Don Juan Benito Sosa, Justice of Peace of that district, giving an account of the civic rejoicings in the town of Navarro, to celebrate the vote of the House of Representatives of the Province, approving the late and heroic conduct of His Excellency the Governor, in resisting the unjust pretensions of the French Vice-Consul and French Rear Admiral. The rejoicings continued for four days, namely, from the 8th to 11th ult., inclusive. On the 8th, a heroic conduct of the Governor, in resisting the unjust pretensions of the French Vice-Consul and French Rear Admiral. The rejoicings continued for four days, namely, from the 8th to 11th ult., inclusive. On the 8th, nearly all the population of the town, attended the Church, to offer prayers to the Almighty, "for the preservation of the heroic magistrate, who in this moment of difficulty presides with so much wisdom and firmness over the destinies of the country." The religious services being concluded, the congregation accompanied Col. Vicente Gonzalez to his residence, where a banquet was laid out, a grand ball took place, and the music and the dance continued until late on the following morning. On the 9th, the portrait of the Governor was borne in procession to the Church, amidst immense acclamations, and escorted by troops, music, &c. &c. After divine service, the portrait was with the same ceremonies conveyed to the house of Col. Gonzalez. In the evening there were illuminations, fire works, and other splendid ball. On the 10th, the religious observances and amusements of the preceding day were repeated. The ball commenced in a brilliantly lighted saloon, at 9 o'clock in the evening, and was attended by many lovely females. On the 11th, a public repast was prepared in the plaza, it consisted of *carne con cerezo*, abundance of wine, &c. &c. At night there was another ball.

The Justice of Peace made an oration during the festivities, in tenor, that in the various conflicts to which the country had been exposed, its honor had at all events been saved, but that now two foreign agents, not competently accredited, endeavored to exact from them its last sacrifice in the name of one of the most enlightened nations of Europe. In this emergency, the genius of the country inspired the hero of the Restoration, and with an army, navy, or pecuniary means, but full of confidence in Divine Providence, the justice of the cause, and the feelings of liberty which prevail in both hemispheres, added to the irresistible power of public opinion, the country against unjust aggression, formed the magnanimous resolution to encounter all risk and make every sacrifice rather than consent to the degrading humiliation which the French government would wish to impose. Nature has done every thing for this country, and in a national war, its seas will be invincible. "Let us (said the Justice), rally round the meritorious individual who presides over us, and doubt not, that he who has subscribed to our degradation. Let us meet firmly this new event, and we shall one day be recompensed by seeing our country prosperous and happy."

FELLOW COUNTRYMEN.—Our worthy Representatives have fulfilled their pledges, and rendered themselves creditors to the gratitude of the Argentines.

Then followed exclamations of *Viva la Independencia Nacional!* *Viva el hero que acaba de volver!* *Vivan los Ilustres Representantes de la Patria!* *Vivan la Confederacion Argentina!* *Vivan los principes justos que por los dias de Julio en Tucuman!* *Mueran los Unitarios!* *Mueran el tirano Unitario Santa Cruz!* *Mueran el caballero Rivera!* *Mueran Lavalle!* *Mueran el Vandalero Rivera!*

Other orations followed of similar import to the above.

Festival of Our Lady of the Rosario.

This festival, ever one of the most splendid and important in Buenos Ayres, was celebrated as heretofore, in the Church of Santo Domingo in this city. The *Venena* commenced on the 6th inst., and concluded on the 14th. The congregation on each evening was immense, the great proportion of whom were females.—The vocal parts were well sustained. On each night a sermon was preached; the Reverend Gentleman who officiated were *El padre Francisco Mojate, de la Compañia de Jesus* and *Friar Juan Gonzalez, del orden serafico.* The mayordomos of the festival were Señores José Nevares and Simon R. Mier. The mayordona, Doña Maria Dolores Fernandez de Quiroga.

The High Altar and Images of Our Lady of the *Asuncion* and *Santo Domingo*, were gorgeously decorated and lit. Artificial flowers of all descriptions, (particularly of roses), gilded with gold and silver, were tastefully wreathed. The predominant colour—red, crimson, rose and white. Rich vases, bearing ornaments of a similar description, and placed on alabaster tables, were arranged around, as also transparent lamps. The centre aisle of the Church was carpeted. The carpet near the High Altar, the spectacle was one of great beauty, and caused us to pause a considerable time to view it. The decorative part evinced the taste of the architects who designed and superintended its execution.

On the afternoon of Sunday the 7th inst., the *Junco* of the *Virgen del Rosario*, having in one hand a rosary and in the other a sceptre, and that of *Santo Domingo*, were borne in procession through the neighbouring streets, escorted by a company of the regiment *Restauradores*, with their band, and accompanied by various vocalists, a band of violins, the Dominican friars, and a great assemblage of the *cofrades*, many of them carrying papers.

The day of *Nuestra Señora del Pilar*, 12th inst., was celebrated by a *funcion* at the Church of the Recoleta. 'Recoleta Fair,' which was wont to attract all Buenos Ayres, and which commenced on each 12th October, has been for several years discontinued.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE BRITISH PACKET.

SIR,

I have been requested by the unfortunate family, in whose case your correspondent *Herald* writes, so beautifully commented, to return their grateful thanks for his kind and liberal donation. At the same time allow me to express my fervent hope, that the philanthropic and benevolent spirit he has suggested for the relief of the unfortunate will do but in vain.—He has evinced feelings which do honour to our nature, and I envy not the man who can read his appeal without emotion.

Mr. Editor, will you permit me to congratulate Mr. Malcolm on his good fortune, in having saved his flock, which he states are in good condition, "the lambs gambolling with their mothers, and the Saxons ran majestically strutting about," like Solomon in all his glory, "and viewing his little ones as trophies of the victory."

It is possible, I may have fallen into error, respecting the quantity of sheep destroyed, from having passed at a distance from the spot, and in consequence thereof, confounded the sick and dying with the dead. Our party were anxious to afford relief to Mr. Malcolm and his family, who were represented to be in imminent danger.

I confess I was somewhat astonished instead of meeting them to find the house empty, and as we approached it, our halting was answered by the grunting of a *Majestic Pig*, this superb animal had got possession of the corridor, and was gazing on the *stragglers* around him, with a philosophic calmness truly astonishing; having lost one of his fore paws, the grandeur of his movement was in some degree impeded, and under such circumstances, it was out of his power, by any lively movements or gambolling, to show the content and pleasure he felt at his novel situation as Lord of the Mansion!

How beautiful is his mien—
Sweet and languishing its small grey eye,
Its delicate form and solemn lip,
Graces the very ground it treads!

In conclusion, I think Mr. Malcolm might have indulged himself in giving a glowing description of his flock, feeding on cut grass, and his own exertions, without imputing to me either a deviation from truth, or causing anxiety and expense, when he himself avers, that "in consequence of unfounded reports in town," individuals came in boats to remove the sheep on the Saturday following.

SPECTATOR.

JACK'S ALIVE.—The numerous acquaintances of Jack the "knock kneed" negro, will be happy to learn that he sustained no injury in the recent attack made by the *alices* on Martin Garcia. His appearance and gestures attor-

nished the victors. They took him to be the ragged ambassador from "Rag fair," and their astonishment was increased when he addressed them in his glibberish of Spanish and English, in which he said, "Go to Hell!"—"D—n your eyes!"—"Give me a glass of grog," were most conspicuous. Jack meant all this as a compliment; they thought otherwise, and knock'd him down. "Grogious powers!" they fell to the curlls. Prince George, a young lord of Angolo, for such he has often declared himself to be.—"Poor fellow, he has had many hard knocks in his time. He remains on the island where he was wont to be called 'Grog' by the Englishmen."—"I never happy (said he one day when sober, which was not often the case), except I am amongst Englishmen." But why are you always drunk at those times, said he.—"Because the English get drunk too, and therefore I shall not be so much noticed." was his apt reply.—"Surely, as we once before observed, he must have read Hamlet."

The only remarks we have found in the English papers received by the last packet, respecting the blockade of this port, are the following, from "the Times" of 21st and 25th July, and 4th August.

Letters and publications recently received from Buenos Ayres, contain more full particulars concerning the blockade of this port, with France and the consequent blockade of the river Plate than were previously known here. There is so striking a similarity in the facts and cases adduced with those which have heretofore been made public respecting the alleged Mexican grievances, that it would almost appear as if a quarrel with the two Spanish American republics had been a predetermined affair, and the same causes (pretextual for an armistice) and justification in each case. Thus, with reference to Bacla, the Swiss imprisoned by order of the Buenos Ayres government, who, upon the faith of the representations made by the French Consul, seemed to have been cruelly dealt with, it is now stated that he was a regular employe as lithographer to the State; and that he had never applied to the Consul for permission to travel, nor even made any complaint to him, so that he was not in a French vessel. This unfortunate man was in high favour with, and strongly protected by, General Rosas and his Ministers, one of whom was bail for him in a heavy sum, which he has since been obliged to refund. He was confidentially intrusted, he had embarked in intriguing against the State, endeavouring to forge and false statements to create a misunderstanding with Chili, and to favour the Larranque party opposed to Rosas. These intrigues were discovered by his letters intercepted, he was cast into prison in the fair exercise of the power which a government has to deal with its own officers. Another grievance complained of was in the instance of a man named Lavie, whose man to a centin on the orders of Col. Ruizcuz. Complaints having been made of great abuses and robberies of the clothing of the troops, a general search of every person was ordered, which he violently resisted. The result was, that on examination of his trunk \$900 were found, which he confessed having robbed his master of, besides \$3900 more which he had sent away, upon which an arrest was made and sent to prison. The French Consul contended for his immunity from search and imprisonment as a French citizen. So also a man named Desjouis was claimed as a French subject, although he had been 20 years in the country, was married to a native, had a family, and been duly naturalized. He had assumed a considerable property, and the Consul denied his liability, notwithstanding all these circumstances, to serve like other citizens the military law. By far the most glaring impropriety alleged against the French Consul was, however, the fact that he was in the habit, for a trifling gratuity, of granting certificates of origin or citizenship to native-born natives, and that to such a scandalous extent had this been carried, as it is asserted, that the Sardinian Consul on his arrival had had bitter disputes with him about it, for on entering upon the duties of his commission he found almost all the subjects of his sovereign certified by the French Consul as French subjects.

Although only a Vice-Consul, and without other credentials, M. Roger claimed a right to treat questions of the highest political import

with the Buenos Ayres authorities. It is likewise complained that the French did not observe a fitting neutrality in the contest between Buenos Ayres and Peru, having on various occasions furnished General Santa Cruz with vessels for himself and troops for transport from place to place, when otherwise they could not have proceeded on account of the Chili squadron, by which they were watched and blockaded.

These relations of the French Consul's misrepresentations and causes of complaint against France, have been often and not only the British Minister there, who had fully concurred in the justice of the course pursued by the Buenos Ayres government. It is worthy of remark, and had given rise to much animadversion, that this was the first time for several years that the question had been raised of exemptions from the laws and liabilities of the country and other special privileges in behalf of French citizens. The last time the points were mooted was during the Consulship of M. Mendeville, when they were quietly disposed of.—On the present occasion, however, no sooner were the pretensions urged and refused, than a French squadron was called in, and a blockade declared. The right to the first village was demanded by the government, who, in answer to the statement that such exclusive immunities were enjoyed by the English and Americans, remarked that whatever was so enjoyed had been conceded by special treaty, and in return for friendly services, and an early recognition of the independence of the State, while France has never sought to negotiate a treaty; but, in fact, that with respect to some of the privileges ascribed to, none such really existed, and had on various occasions been protested against by the government, as might be verified on reference to the archives.

It may be observed that the blockade is extending great dissatisfaction among the merchants in the city. Considering the tone adopted by several of the Paris papers, it is suspected that the French merchants have other and ulterior designs in view of a political nature; for one of the common topics in these papers recently is the assertion that powerful French parties exist in all the Spanish American republics, and that thence there have not only been frequently offered to French Princes, but that the establishment of monarchies there under the patronage of France, if not to be headed by French princes, would be a matter of easy accomplishment.

The following order of the day, issued by the French Admiral to his squadron, announcing the blockade, would seem by its terms to be one boasting addition to Algiers to countenance the ambitious speculations of the Paris papers. A letter from a Spanish ad at Rio sarcastically remarks on the concluding sentence that the French Admiral has copied Nelson's *Excellency* proposal. Considering the disparity of strength and the weakness of the foe, the boast, however out of place, is amusing enough.—

ORDER OF THE DAY.

“Officers, Sub-officers, and Sailors.—The Argentine government, in contempt of its obligations, refuses to treat France according to the rank she holds.

“It pretends to dispense in respect to us with the common rights of nations. It wishes to subject our countrymen established in its territory to an odious and cruel tyranny.

“It refuses to concede to the government of the King those just and moderate demands which have been presented by his representative.

“France, always generous, has long waited in hopes that the magnanimity of which she has given proofs would be better appreciated. The moment has arrived when she will no longer tolerate conduct contrary to her rights and dignity.

“We commence hostilities by the blockade of Buenos Ayres. If our efforts do not succeed in recalling the government to a sense of justice and equity, if it persist in exciting the anger of France, the example of Algiers will serve to show that she knows how to chastise those who are imprudent enough to offend her. Her name will be assigned for Buenos Ayres; we have ships to over-run it.

“Officers, Sub-officers, and Sailors.—It is to you it belongs to protect our brethren whom foreigners would oppress. We will fulfil the task confided to us by our country. We will justify

its noble confidence; she may reckon upon us; every man will do his duty.

Nothing could be more formal than the mode in which the Buenos Ayres authorities had proceeded to verify the futility of the complaints urged by the French, who had alleged that many of their countrymen were actually and unjustly imprisoned and persecuted, and many more forced to take service and serving in the army. Official returns were ordered from the departments in charge of all the foreigners actually in prison at the date, the 31st of March, from which it resulted, that the whole number consisted of two Frenchmen, four Englishmen, one Prussian, and one Portuguese, so that the French at least had not the greatest cause to complain. Of these, two Frenchmen, one named Pedro Jusson, a seaman, was condemned, for the assassination of Matias Cañete, to four years' service on board one of the vessels of the State, and the other, Lavie, to six months' imprisonment for theft, by his own confession.

In answer to the letter of the French Admiral, denouncing the incarceration of his countrymen, Rosas, the President, sarcastically observes, “I cannot do your Excellency the injustice of supposing that you allude to these criminals, when you tell me ‘I detain in prison your Excellency's fellow countrymen.’” So also by official returns ordered from the commanders of regiments of the line and militia and the navy, it turned out that the multitude of Frenchmen as before was reduced into six only, of whom five enlisted voluntarily for the bounty (about \$100), and one was a vagrant, who also having no occupation voluntarily took service. With these who thus entered as volunteers, the French Admiral himself avows that he claims no right of interference. Altogether, as formerly remarked, the French have made out but a sorry case for their blockade and hostile aggressions against Buenos Ayres.

It appears that some uneasiness has been expressed by the commercial community of France with reference to the course which may be adopted by Mexico and Buenos Ayres on occasion of the blockade of their coasts. Approbations were especially entertained last letters of reproof and reprisal should be issued, as it is well understood the effect would be, that swarms of privateers would speedily be armed and despatched from ports on the United States, which under cover of the Mexican flag might cause the most serious damage to French commerce. It will be remembered, that the President of Mexico had been armed with full power by the legitimate to let in whatever they might judge expedient, and in the case arising of French aggression being carried to the extent of confiscating Mexican property and vessels, at once to retaliate to the utmost extent which he might consider necessary. The French government, it seems, were not on their side without fears of matters being pushed to extremity, for on the 26th ultimo, (July,) the Minister of Commerce, in a circular to the Chamber of Commerce at Bordeaux, informed them that the Minister of Marine had ordered Bazouche, the commander of the blockading squadron in the Gulf of Mexico, and Leblanc, the admiral commanding on the Brazilian station, to take all the precautions which prudence could suggest so as to afford every possible protection to commerce in the event of the government of Mexico and Buenos Ayres granting letters of marque and reprisals, as apprehended. It is to be noted, in fact, that numerous applications and offers for letters of marque have been addressed to those governments on the part of speculators and merchants at New Orleans and other ports in the United States, although hitherto without result.

FRENCH BLOCKADE OF MEXICAN PORTS.

In the House of Commons on 27th July.

Mr. Alderman THOMPSON inquired whether there was any truth in the report that the

packets to and from Mexico had been interdicted by the French government from carrying specie, the property of private individuals, while the blockade lasted?

Lord PALMERSTON said the French had made an exception in favor of the packets in and out between this country and Mexico. The French government allowed the packets to carry specie belonging to the government, but declined to allow them to take specie belonging to individuals. The permitting packets to pass at all was an indulgence which we had no right to expect according to our own principles; and allowing packets to carry specie belonging to government was another indulgence which they had no right to expect.

THE WEATHER, has been variable during the week, thermometer 56 to 66.

ARGENTINE THEATRE.

On 14th inst., was repeated to a respectable audience, *El sitio de Paris*. Boleros were danced by Señores Casacuberta and Quijano, the latter in female attire (he ought to have been a woman).

On 15th, *Una mancha de sangre*, and some singing by Señores Montero and Rossi. We did not attend.

VICTORIA THEATRE.

On 13th inst., was performed for the benefit of Doña Trinidad, a piece translated from the French, called ‘the Sons of Edward IV.’ It relates to the reported murder of that Monarch's son, in the Tower, by Richard Duke of Gloucester, and ends with the murder. That is to say, it is an attempt to embody the three first acts of Richard III. Would it be believed, that in this French abortion, Señor Lapuerta as Richard, the most active man of his time, and who died in the prime of life, lobbied about the stage with the assistance of a stick, and but for his black hair and tremendous mustaches, we should have fancied him a gray old man of 80. Besides which, the Señor had no opportunity of distinguishing himself, the part being cast to his low tone of voice, which is at all times disagreeable. He had a bump or hunch on his back, as nature may have formed hump-backed men in Spain and France, but certainly different from those we have seen in England; it made him very stiff-necked. He wore a hat like those of the Puritans in Cromwell's time. One of the boy Princes played well, and so did Doña Trinidad as Edward's widow. Señor Lapuerta performed in the farce of *Una de lasaue* with no great success. The house was crowded.

Advertisements.

TO LET.

A Commodious house in Mr. Wilde's Quins.

NOTICE.

OLD English bottled Port, Sherry of excellent flavour, Champagne, Preserved Ginger, Black and Green Peas, Sugar Candy, &c. &c. are on sale by the package, at Anderson, Weller & Co's. Stores.

NOTICE.

MRS. M. GAW, returns her thanks for the kind patronage she has received, and begs leave to inform the public, that she has excellent accommodations for gentlemen and ladies, at her house, Calle de la Paz, No. 36, both with board or without, as most convenient. Rooms furnished or unfurnished.



MERCHANT VESSELS

In the Port of Buenos Ayres, on the 15th of October, 1835.



NOTE.

FOREIGN VESSELS OF WAR.

FRENCH. Brig Dasas, 22 guns, Captain Hyppolite Dauguet, with Commodore's broad pennant.

Corvette Camille, 20 guns, Commandante Pierre Louis Hermenegilde Guillemin. (Capitaine de Frégate.)

Brig Bordeaux, 10 guns, Captain Hyppolite de Lalande de Calan.

one of reserve, of which one advanced by the road sheltering itself under the hedges, the rest marched covered by the hillocks, one by N. E. and the other by the bay, the reserve remaining in the same direction; the three columns keeping up a constant fire, we answered with musquetry and the two twelve pounders, which playing with the greatest effect, kept the enemy in check. In the midst of this vigorous fire, which assailed us from all parts, our ninety six brave fellows who constituted the garrison, with twenty one emigrants from the Canary Islands, and 15 convicts armed with the lances, were filled with the bustle of the sight of the portraits of our illustrious Restaurador and of the brave General Quiroga, which I had placed on the flag staff under cover of the fire. The artillery from the vessels did not give as a moments breathing time as numerous shot struck on the yet unfinished terrace, rising a cloud of dust and striking down several men. The afore-mentioned columns of attack acted with vigour, but were checked by our brave fellows who had to keep up unsheltered the fire, the parapets being unfinished; this they did with gallantry. After a combat of an hour and a quarter, as unequal as it was contested, all the columns charged upon the batteries, whose trenches a child 4 years old might have leaped, because they were unfinished. The enemy placed under our fire and our twelve pounders dismantled, as was the case during the action, as they fell at every discharge, were ordered to be replaced them by main force. I observed that an ammunition chest was on fire, which with great difficulty was extinguished. In this emergency, the enemy gained possession of the redoubt. They triumphed, but it was owing to their far greater force, their squadron and other circumstances which have been related.

I and my companions in arms were made prisoners, but were treated with the greatest generosity by the French officers and soldiers. — During the assault all the habitations on the island were plundered, but the officers of the enemy restored all that could be found.

The loss of the enemy has been considerable; on our part we have to deplore the loss of the brave Sub-lieutenant of the Restauradores, Francisco Molina, and the old veteran sergeant of artillery Juan Saucedo, who after having performed important services, and whose trenches was bayonneted when in the act of spiking the gun he commanded. We have likewise to deplore the loss of 12 soldiers killed, and 20 or 25 wounded.

I feel infinitely pleasure in recommending to the consideration of the government, the brave conduct of the gallant officers, Brevet Major John B. Thorne, who had charge of the artillery with the intrepid Sub-lieutenant Molina; as also the bravery of the Lieutenants of Militia, Benito Argerich, who headed the infantry, Antonio Miranda, Juan Rosas and Domingo Turrero.

The courage and enthusiasm of the troops are unparalleled, and therefore I recommend them to the consideration of His Excellency, they having honorably and worthily fulfilled their duty.

God preserve you many years.

GERONIMO COSTA.

The news of the capture of Martin Garcia, was brought to Buenos Ayres on Saturday morning, by two whalers, and on the 10th of the month at 3 P. M. a French boat, its National flag at the mast of this Republic at the bow came to shore. A French officer landed and was conducted to the Marine office, by the Adjutant of the Port, Juan Francisco Segui. His mission was to state, that prisoners in number 97, captured at Martin Garcia, and its late Commander were on board the French squadron off the port, and remained at the disposal of the government of Buenos Ayres. He also delivered a note from Commodore Dagueneau, addressed to His Excellency the Governor, which note purported, that the operations against Martin Garcia, had given him an opportunity of appreciating the military talents of the gallant Colonel Costa, and his devoted loyalty to his country. In this opinion frankly expressed, he was joined by the Captains of the Expeditivo and Bordaize, who had witnessed his incredible activity and excellent dispositions to defend the island. Therefore, he (the Commodore) feeling the highest esteem for Col. Costa, conceived that he could not give a greater proof of it, than by manifesting to His Excellency his praise-worthy conduct, during an attack made by far superior forces.

On the morning of Monday, six boats were

despatched to bring the prisoners on shore. — But the French Commodore, in order to do honor to Colonel Costa, had him conveyed to shore in the boat of the Bordaize, with Major John B. Thorne and Lieut. B. Argerich, accompanied by the Captain of the Bordaize. The boat came to the landing place about mid-day. The French flag at that of this Republic at the bow. It was met by the Captain of the Port, who fervently embraced Col. Costa, and conducted him amidst the cheers of a great crowd, to the marine office. All classes vied in their congratulations on those of the higher orders; and there were many present, took off their hats when "the hero of Martin Garcia" passed them, whilst others rent the air with their cries. We have rarely witnessed more enthusiastic demonstrations. Those of the higher orders, who were most affected, and returned the salutations in the most graceful manner. Arrived at the Marine office, the throng and cheering increased and continued until his departure. The Captain of the Bordaize and other French officers were on shore for a short time, and witnessed part of these enthusiastic demonstrations.

In appearance, Colonel Costa is about 35 years of age, rather below the middle height, with a countenance expressive of courage and talent. All the prisoners were lauded in the course of the morning—a French boat assisted in bringing baggage, &c. The Captain of the Bordaize, with all his brother officers, received the most marked attentions from the French officers. How noble has been their conduct, and how deeply they must feel the unpleasant duty they are obliged to perform. A soldier so opposed to the wishes of his men would seek, indeed throughout this blockade, the conduct of Commodore Dagueneau, and those under his command, has been conspicuous for urbanity and kindness, and has behaved for us.

Blood has been shed—"Argentine blood"—we will not enlarge upon the excitement this has caused in Buenos Ayres, the pointed language which its journals, have at last given vent to regarding this dispute with the French, nor give place to the various communications on the subject we have received, in the hope (though indeed a slight one,) that the wound is not so deep but it may yet be healed, without further loss of consequences. It would however be worse than useless were we to disguise the fact, that the circumstance of the French associating themselves with the party of Rivera, has caused surprise, even to their very best friends, and will give the government of Buenos Ayres, had only one friend, they can from the event in question count upon twenty. The act itself is really extraordinary, and we cannot surmise what forcible excuse can be alleged for it. On the one hand, we see the legal authority of the Oriental Republic, holding its seat of government in Montevideo, the capital of that Republic; Foreign Consul's, including the French, performing their official duties near it, and France, in profound peace with it, yet the French force in the River Plate, has by the command of its Admiral, taken the part of and openly assisted those in rebellion against it; for rebels they are to all intents and purposes, however plausible may be the motives assigned for their rebellion.

We know not what is to prevent the full success of Don Fructuoso Rivera. — Montevideo and Paisanudo (both closely besieged), being all that the legal government has left, and the naval force it was preparing, in order to crush that which Rivera has obtained, can be of no avail, since the French fleet has become its declared enemy.

MARINE LIST.

Port of Buenos Ayres.

October 13.—Wind W.
Arrived, United States brigantine Dolphin, 12 guns, Lieut. Alexander Sillid Mackenzie, Commander, from Montevideo 11th inst.
French brig of war Bordaize 10 guns, Captain H. de Lalande de Calan, and French schooner of war Ana, both from Martin Garcia, with the prisoners captured on that island.

October 14.—Wind E.
No arrivals or sailings.

October 15.—Wind E.
No arrivals or sailings.

October 16.—Wind E. strong in the afternoon.
No arrivals.
Arrived, French corvette Eschonne, 18 guns, Captain Leconte, and French schooner of war Ana, on a cruise.

October 17.—Wind E. strong at night—slight rain early in the morning.

No arrivals.
Sailed, (early this morning), H. B. M's packet schooner Spidler, Lieut. John O'Keilly, Commander, for Montevideo and Rio Janeiro.
Passengers for Montevideo, Mr. J. C. Zimmermann and lady, Messrs. O. J. Hayes, James Black, James Ker, A. Bornefeldt, Otto, Juan G. Martinez, Estanislao Vega, Francisco Belaustigui and lady, and Trifon, Antonio &c.

October 18.—Wind E. strong at night.
No arrivals.

Sailed, (early this morning), H. B. M's brig Sparrowhawk, 16 guns, Captain John Shepherd, for Montevideo.
United States brigantine Dolphin, 12 guns, Lieut. Alexander Sillid Mackenzie, Commander, for Colonia and Montevideo.

October 19.—Wind N. N. E.
No arrivals or sailings.

Operations of the French blockading vessels.
13th inst. The Bordaize and Ana arrived with the prisoners from Martin Garcia.

14th. Two whole boats, who had been detained by the blockaders and put in service by them, were this day liberated and came to shore. Having performed their business, they were now sent about their own.

15th. French boats employed with shore boats in landing the prisoners from Martin Garcia, the particulars of which we have inserted in another place. The blockaders beat boat arrived from Colonia and sailed again. A balandra which had been detained sailed on the 16th. The corvette Indenne and schooner of war Ana, sailed on a cruise.

17th. Nothing new.
18th. The corvette Camille exercised great guns.

19th. Camille exercised great guns. The blockaders have now eleven small craft in custody in the outer roads.

This French fleet, (24th inst.), completes the 207th day of the blockade.

Advertisement.

MISS MILES.

MILLINER AND DRESS MAKER.

RECENTLY arrived from England, begs leave to acquaint the Ladies of Buenos Ayres, that she has commenced business in all its branches, at No. 55, Calle de Corrientes. Having had an extensive experience in the above line, and among those persons who may favor her, that she will give particular attention to neatness and exercise the greatest punctuality, she hopes to merit a share of public patronage. 620 41.

PRICES CURRENT.

The prices of specie and Exchange must be considered usual.

Doublons, Spanish.....	155	a 160 dollars each
Do. Patriot.....	155	a 160 do.
Dolla incognita.....	83	a 83 do. for one
Dollars, Spanish.....	9	a 9 do. each.
Do Patriot and Pataciones.....	83	a 9 do. do.
Six per cent Stock.....	40	a 40 do. per ct.
Bank Shares.....	none	
Exchange on England.....	57	a pence per dol.
Rs. Janeiro.....	350	a 300
Do. Montevideo.....	54	a 10 per patacon
Do. United States.....	9	a per U. S. dollar
Irish, Ox, best.....	27	a 25 sills. pende
Do. do. do.....	27	a 25 do.
Do weighing 25 to 24lbs.....	25	a 26 do. do.
Do. saltd.....	24	a 24 do. do.
Do. Hots.....	11	a 11 do. do.
Nitrin Skins.....	24	a 3 do. per lb.
Chinchilla Skins.....	24	a 25 do. per dozen
Wool, common.....	6	a 9 do. per arroba
Sheep skins per dozen.....	14	a 16 do. per 27lb.
Calf skins per dozen.....	23	a 24
Deer skins per dozen.....	48	a 42 do. per arroba
Hair, long.....	48	a 42 do. per arroba
Do. mixed.....	24	a 26 do. do.
Jerky Beef.....	15	a 4 do. quintal.
Tallow, mottled.....	11	a 12 do. per arroba
Horns.....	100	a 200 per mt.
Flour, (North American).....	a none	
Sells on board.....	11	a 12 do. per arroba
Discount.....	134	a 24 pr. ct. pr. month

The highest price of Doublons during the week, 160 dollars. The lowest price 152 dollars.

The highest rate of Exchange upon England during the week past, 57 pence. The lowest ditto 56 pence.

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